

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 02/12/2021 For further information, contact:

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Since Wednesday, 41 Residents have Tested Positive and 28 More have Recovered from COVID-19;
Information about Framingham's Health Department's February 13 Vaccine Clinic;
Community Hour Tues., Feb. 16: The Vaccine - Building Trust in Underrepresented Communities;
City Hall & other Non-Essential Municipal Buildings Closed Monday, February 15, for Presidents' Day;
State's Project Beacon Testing Site in Framingham Will Conduct COVID-19 Testing on President's Day;
Next COVID-19 Press Release to be Issued Tuesday, February 16

- Since Wednesday, 41 residents have tested positive, 28 more have recovered from COVID-19: The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is 6,498. With 5,065 recovered and 219 fatalities, Framingham currently has 1,214 active cases. The Framingham Health Department contacts the people who were potentially exposed and the owners of the businesses or places of employment where the potential exposures occurred to inform and counsel them on next steps (contact tracing). In addition to the active cases, the Health Department is following 518 residents in quarantine.
- Information about Framingham's Health Department's February 13 Vaccine Clinic: You must meet
 eligibility requirements (a resident of Framingham who is 75+) to register for the clinic.
 The Health Department will cancel an appointment if the registrant is not a Framingham resident
 and 75 or older and cannot accept the Moderna vaccine. Please check the
 State's website frequently, as canceled appointments will show up as an open slot.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESIDENTS WHO HAVE SECURED AN APPOINTMENT:

- If you are feeling ill, experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, sudden loss of taste or smell, chills, muscle pain), or are waiting for COVID-19 test results, please **DO NOT** attend the clinic.
- Bring a government-issued form of identification and health insurance information (if you have health insurance).
- Arrive outside the entrance to the clinic no more than 10 minutes before your appointment.
 This is important as many stood outside in the cold last week unnecessarily. We want to ensure all residents are not standing out in the cold and are practicing social distancing. If you have an appointment, are a Framingham resident, and are 75 years or older, you will be vaccinated.
- Wear a mask and practice social distancing at all times.
- PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING BEFORE THE TIME OF YOUR APPOINTMENT. We will not be able to admit patients early. Please follow the signage for entry.
- Wear clothing that allows ease of access to the upper arm.
- Expect to be at the vaccination site for about 30 minutes. This includes a mandatory 15-30-minute wait after you have been vaccinated.
- If a caregiver or companion accompanies you, he or she will not be eligible for a vaccination at the Framingham Clinic. At this time, only <u>mass vaccination sites</u> have the capacity to accommodate companion appointments. Mass vaccination sites are large venues that offer a high number of vaccine appointments. Look for these sites with a red star on the <u>State's map</u>.

- Community Hour Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 5 p.m., The Vaccine Building Trust in Underrepresented Communities: Dr. Pablo Hernandez, CMO, and Paula Kaminow, Vice President, Operations-Framingham, Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center and Sowmya Viswanathan, Chief Medical Officer, MetroWest Medical Center will join Mayor Yvonne M. Spicer to discuss building trust of the COVID-19 vaccine among underrepresented communities. Attendees will be able to pose questions during the hour via Zoom's Chat function. If you cannot attend and have questions, please email kmcfalls@framinghamma.gov with the subject line: Feb. 16 Community Hour. Click here for information on how to join. A video recording of the Zoom will be available following for those who cannot attend.
- COVID-19 in Framingham: Information on COVID-19 in Framingham can be found here. To receive information from the City on a mobile device, text "Join FraminghamMA" to 30890. Residents also can find updates on Facebook and Twitter @Framingham_MA. For questions regarding COVID-19 in Framingham, please call the City's informational line at (508) 532-5411, Mon-Fri., 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. If there is an urgent update, the City will employ the "Alert Framingham" phone messaging system, otherwise known as Rave. To sign up for the City's Rave system, please go here: https://www.smart911.com/

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